



FAYETTEVILLE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Office of the President

February 16, 2001

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Mr. Michael K. Powell, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW,
Washington, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Mr. Powell:

I am writing to request that the FCC not reassign the Instructional Television Fixed Service frequencies to the 3-G initiative. Fayetteville Technical Community College is licensed to use the A group of frequencies and is planning to utilize the frequencies in every function of the College.

The instructional applications of the technology tie into our mission statement as well as our current distance learning initiatives. FTCC has approximately 2,000 students enrolled in various distance learning programs. Because the ITFS frequencies can now be used for two-way digital applications, we have developed a plan to use the broadband capabilities of the ITFS spectrum to enhance the distance learning offerings.

Many of our students work full time and attend FTCC part time. They often have family responsibilities that limit their free time. Yet, these students are working hard on enhancing their lives through the distance learning programs available at FTCC.

In addition to the many students already enrolled at FTCC through Distance Learning, we have 11 public high schools and numerous private high schools in our community. Each of these high schools is looking to FTCC for various educational enrichment opportunities for their students. FTCC offers college classes to high school students, as well as provides transfer programs to baccalaureate institutions.

The ITFS frequencies licensed to FTCC will be utilized to enhance all of these educational opportunities. Using the two-way broadband wireless capabilities, FTCC will be able to connect all of the high schools in our community to FTCC and to the university system. Viewed as a whole, the MMDS and ITFS channels constitute a technically coherent network strategy. North Carolina is unique in that public schools, community colleges, and public universities have in

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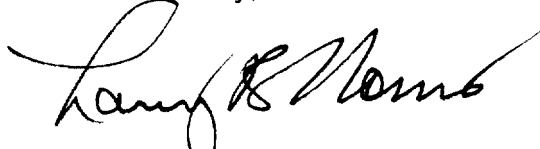
Mr. Michael K. Powell
Page 2
February 16, 2001

essence formed a statewide consortium aimed at creating a seamless web of lifelong learning. There are states that have networks controlled by a single entity. North Carolina has taken a different approach in that public schools, community colleges, and public universities have significant local autonomy, thereby allowing them to meet the unique local needs.

Again, I urge the FCC to allow us to retain the current frequencies as assigned to the ITFS application. Just as distinct MMDS and ITFS channels need to be conjoined to be effective, so also must the goals and objectives of the educational community and our commercial partner be compatible. We have demonstrated in over five years of working together that this is the situation in North Carolina. If any of the MMDS and ITFS bandwidth is taken away, the work of five years by the public schools, the community colleges, the public universities, and our commercial partner will have been for naught and the vision will perish.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry B. Norris". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Larry" being more prominent.

Larry B. Norris
President

LBN/lkw

Attachments

Fayetteville Technical Community College
Wireless Broadband Utilization Plan Narrative

Service type Listed in this column are all the applications we envision using at this time. They include:

Basic E-mail: General email services

Web access: For research and instruction

File transfers: For up and down loading files

Video Conferencing: Such as meeting, classes, and informational sessions that currently are transported using the North Carolina Information Highway.

Pope AFB Connectivity: FTCC provides classes to Air Force personnel and has a center on Pope Air Force Base.

Ft. Bragg Connectivity: FTCC provides classes to U.S. Army personnel and has a center on Ft. Bragg.

Spring Lake Center Connectivity: FTCC is currently in the design stages for a new satellite instructional center in a neighboring community. The new Spring Lake Center will require bandwidth for instruction as well as administration functions.

Botanical Garden Connectivity: FTCC is expanding the Horticulture Technology Program to include the Botanical Garden. This relationship will require connectivity for administrative as well as instructional applications.

Voice over IP: FTCC is in the planning stages of moving to IP telephone service. The roll out date for the first building is April 2001.

High Resolution Video: FTCC is using the Campus LAN to distribute video to the desktop. Several classes use the video for instructional support.

High School Connectivity: FTCC is actively involved with Cumberland County Schools in the delivery of advanced placement courses. This relationship is expanding each semester and it is anticipated that classes will be offered over the wireless broadband services.

Fayetteville Technical Community College

Projected ITFS Broadband usage

Service Type	Peak Usage	Time of Day	Estimated Hours	Applications	Number of courses supported
E-mail	64 Kb/s	Any time	24 hrs	General E-mail services	All Courses
Web Access	1 - 10 Mb/s	Any time	24 hrs	Research	All Courses
File Transfers	1 - 45 Mb/s	7:00 am 10:30 pm	15.5 hrs	Down and upload Files	All Courses
Video Conferencing	1.5 Mb/s	7:00 am 10:30 pm	15.5 hrs	Two-way video/audio courses	NICH Classes
Pope AFB Connectivity	1.5 Mb/s	7:00 am 10:30 pm	15.5 hrs	Instruction and Administration	
Ft. Bragg Connectivity	1.5 Mb/s	7:00 am 10:30 pm	15.5 hrs	Instruction and Administration	All College functions
Spring Lake Center Conn	1.5 Mb/s	7:00 am 10:30 pm	15.5 hrs	Instruction and Administration	All College functions
Botanical Garden Conn	1.5 Mb/s	7:00 am 10:30 pm	15.5 hrs	Instruction and Administration	All College functions
Voice over IP	1.5 Mb/s	7:00 am 10:30 pm	15.5 hrs	POTS	All College functions
High Resolution Video	5.4 Mb/s	7:00 am 10:30 pm	15.5 hrs	FTCC and public meetings	All college functions
High School Connectivity	1.5 Mb/s	7:00 am 10:30 pm	15.5 hrs	Instruction and information	All College functions